

US 93 FISH AND WILDLIFE CROSSINGS

16. Jocko Spring Creek Fish & Wildlife Crossing

Arlee - Ravalli Segment

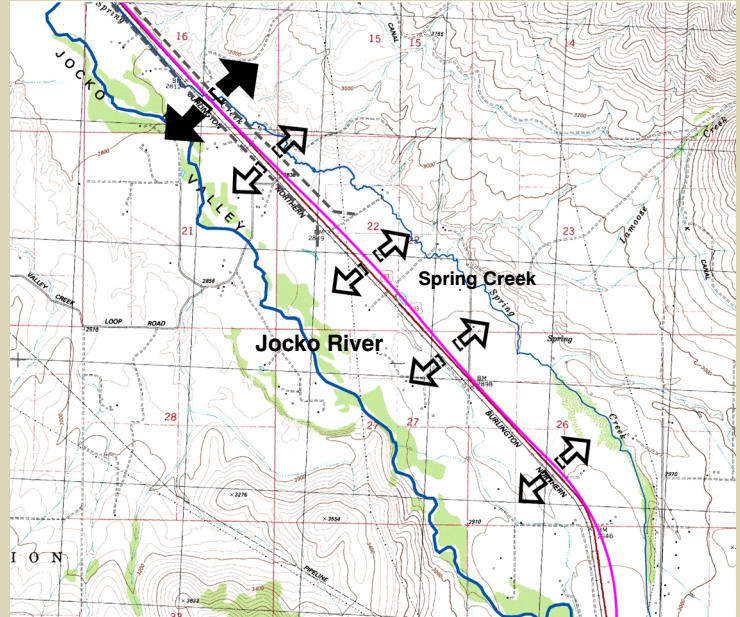
Providing a major crossing structure at Spring Creek would facilitate wildlife movement between the Mission Range and the proposed restoration area in the Jocko Valley. A major objective of the CSKT Wetland/Riparian & Bull Trout Restoration Plan (CSKT, 2000) is to restore Spring Creek, to the greatest extent possible, to its original channel. The point at which the stream crosses US 93 will be identified as part of that coordinated effort.

Design Recommendations

Recommended crossing type: *Open span bridge*
Approximate dimensions: 100' to 150' span,
12' min. ht.

Notes:

Continue 8' page wire along both sides of road.
Begin 8' page wire fencing south of Schall Flats #4 crossing; continue to a point south of Ravalli. Provide cattle guards for connecting roads and driveways.



Jump-outs are desirable on either side of bridge structure as studies have shown that animals trapped inside R.O.W. will turn back rather than cross structures.

Mitigation in this area will require coordination between CSKT, MDT, and MRL to ensure appropriately sized companion crossings (across railroad) for fish, wildlife and hydrology.

Criteria for locations of crossings:

1. **Winter tracking** - NA.
2. **Summer Game Trails** - NA.
3. **Road Kill Data** - Tribal data from 1/95-10/98 combined with MDT data from 12/97-1/00 indicated 10 kills in this area. Additional mortality has since been recorded.
4. **Habitat** - Grassland habitat bordered by riparian habitat and foothills. Wildlife value can be expected to increase based on proposed restoration by the Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT Wetland/Riparian & Bull Trout Restoration Plan (CSKT, 2000).
5. **Engineering Practicality** - N.A.

US 93 DESIGN DISCUSSIONS

Project Committee:

Evarto to Polson, Montana

Montana Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

Prime Consultant: Skillings-Connolly, Inc. - Consulting Engineers

